

AN UPDATE TO THE VASCULAR FLORA OF CALCASIEU PARISH, LOUISIANA

Ray Neyland

*Department of Biological & Environmental Sciences
McNeese State University
Lake Charles, LA 70609, USA*

ABSTRACT

The publication of a vascular flora survey of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana by Neyland et al. in 2000 is updated and revised. Subsequent field and herbarium research has yielded the discovery of four new species for the parish. Additionally, six species that had been previously reported by other sources to occur the parish but were not discovered during Neyland et al.'s original survey have been collected. Two corrections from the original survey are also noted.

KEY WORDS: Vascular Plant Survey, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana

RESUMEN

La publicación de un inventario de flora vascular de Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana por Neyland et al. en 2000 se pone al día y se revisa. La investigación subsiguiente de campo y herbario ha tenido como consecuencia el descubrimiento de cuatro nuevas especies para parroquia. Adicionalmente, se han colectado seis especies que habían sido citadas previamente por otras fuentes en la parroquia pero no fueron descubiertas durante la inspección original de Neyland et al. Se hacen también dos correcciones al catálogo original.

This paper updates and revises the original vascular flora survey of Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana of Neyland et al. (2000). Specifically, the purpose of this study is to list new collections from the Parish and to correct errors from the original survey.

METHODS

Since the publication of the original survey by Neyland et al. (2000) until present, plant collections from Calcasieu have continued. Voucher specimens were prepared using standard herbarium practices and are housed at the McNeese State University (MCN) Herbarium. Additionally, specimens from other herbaria have been examined. Nomenclature follows Kartesz (1999).

RESULTS

The following entries are new additions to the vascular flora of Calcasieu Parish. These taxa have not been reported previously as occurring in the parish. Specimen references follow the same format as in the original survey (Neyland et al. 2000). Authorities are abbreviated according to Brummitt and Powell (1992). Following the collection data is an abbreviation for the vegetative region

where each species typically occurs: prairie (Pr); longleaf pineland (Pi). Although not a vegetation region, disturbed areas such as pastures, fallow fields, ditches, urban areas and roadsides are collectively abbreviated (D).

AMARYLLIDACEAE

Zephyranthes candida (Lindl.) Herbert (MCN) Neyland 1944 D

ASTERACEAE

Bidens alba (L.) DC. (MCN) Neyland 1940 D

LAMIACEAE

Nepeta cataria L. (MCN) Walker s.n. D

ORCHIDACEAE

Platanthera integra (Nutt.) Gray ex Beck (AMES) Cocks s.n. Pi

The following entries have been previously reported in the parish but were not collected during the original survey of Neyland et al. (2000). Therefore, these collections provide recent evidence for their presence in Calcasieu Parish.

ASTERACEAE

Coreopsis pubescens Ell. var. *debilis* (Sherff) E.B. Smith (MCN) Neyland 1951 D, Pi

Silphium integrifolium Michx. (MCN) Neyland 1947 D, Pr

EUPHORBIACEAE

Chamaesyce hirta (L.) Millsp. (MCN) Neyland 1939 D

JUNCACEAE

Juncus bufonius L. Haning 8 (MCN) D, Pi, Pr

LAMIACEAE

Scutellaria drummondii Benth. (MCN) Neyland 1927 D

OXALIDACEAE

Oxalis violacea L. (MCN) Neyland 1945 D, Pi, Pr

The following entries were misidentified in the original survey. Subsequent annotations have resulted in the noted corrections.

1. The specimen originally reported as *Asclepias variegata* L. Neyland 1763 **Pi** is *Asclepias obovata* Ell. Therefore, this species is removed from the survey.

2. The specimen reported as *Juncus elliottii* Chapm. Brooks 609 (MCN) **D**, **Pi**, **Pr** is *Juncus acuminatus* Michx. However, the species does occur in the parish as evidenced by the specimen designated as *Juncus elliottii* Chapm. Giltner 37 (MCN) **D**, **Pi**, **Pr**.

DISCUSSION

The most notable addition to the flora of Calcasieu Parish is the discovery of a specimen of *Platanthera integra* in the Oakes Ames Herbarium at Harvard. This specimen was collected by R.S. Cocks in September, 1906; however, additional collection information is absent from the herbarium sheet. *P. integra* is presently rated by The Natural Heritage Program of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries as “S2” which is defined as rare and local throughout

the state or found locally in a restricted region of the state. This apparently is the only known specimen that has ever been collected in Calcasieu Parish. Because suitable habitat for this species largely has been destroyed in the parish (Neyland et al. 1998), it may be extirpated.

As a result of these revisions to the original vascular flora survey of Calcasieu Parish, the number of confirmed specific and subspecific entries for the parish is increased to 1,153. The number of reported but unverified entries for the parish is reduced to 131.

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